FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE (FIRE)

The finance, insurance, and real estate (FIRE) sector in El Paso grew steadily during most of the 1990s. That pattern is expected to continue in coming years, buoyed by low mortgage rates, economic expansion, and new financial product development. Rising incomes have allowed housing values to increase in recent years. Median prices for both new and existing units are forecast to move permanently above \$100,000 by the end of the decade.

	Top Six Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate Sector Employers									
	Employer	Type of Business	Number of Employees							
	Government Employees Credit Union	Credit Union	477							
2.	Wells Fargo Bank	Bank	351							
3.	Bank of America	Bank	216							
1.	Chase Bank of Texas	Bank	200							
5.	State National Bank	Bank	180							
6.	Bank of the West	Bank	170							

Source: City of El Paso, Department of Economic Development, June 2003.

Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate Sector Growth and Projections

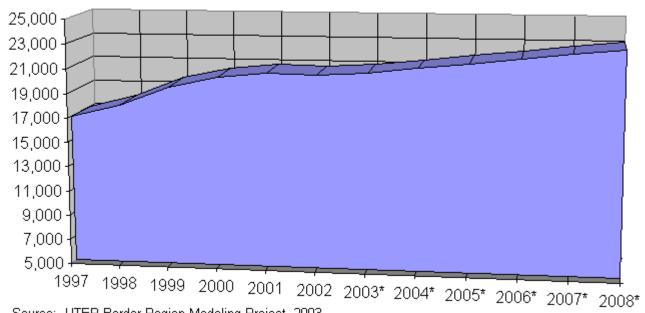
1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*	2008*

Total

Employment 16,946 17,975 19,534 20,420 20,803 20,686 20,925 21,372 21,812 22,252 22,692 23,047 Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project 2003.

Annual Averages

El Paso MSA Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate Sector **Employment Growth and Projections** 1997 - 2008



Source: UTEP Border Region Modeling Project, 2003